

Appl. No.: 10/656,705
Art Unit: 1712 Docket No.: B03-51
Reply to Office Action of February 28, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Claims 1, 12, and 18 have been amended. In particular, claims 1 and 12 have been amended to clarify "T" and "W" in the chemical structure. Claim 18 has been amended to recite a preferred chemical structure. No new matter has been added by these amendments and additions.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In particular, the "T" and "W" language in claims 1 and 12 was deemed unclear. In an effort to clarify, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 to recite that "T" and "W" are oxygen-containing or nitrogen-containing groups.

Regarding claim 2's structure, the unclear "T" and "W" groups are now clarified as a result of the amendment to claim 1.

Regarding the rejection of claim 18, Applicant has amended the typographical error so that the claim now recites a polyurethane/urea hybrid prepolymer (like claims 1 and 12).

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is therefore believed to have been overcome. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a)

Claims 18 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Rajagopalan '100; and claims 18 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Rajagopalan '102.

Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited references disclose, or even suggest, a monodisperse telechelic polyamine. The structure recited in independent claims 1, 12, and 18 requires at least a -C-C- in the backbone of the polyamine based on the at least two independently polymerized vinyl (a hydrocarbon) groups - each of the references disclose carbon-ether, carbon-ester, or polycarbonate linkages, none of which fit the recited structure.

For at least the above reasons, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a) are believed to have been overcome. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

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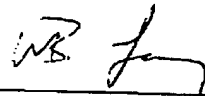
CONCLUSION

Based on the remarks set forth above, Applicant believes that all of the rejections have been overcome and the claims of the subject application are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any further concerns or believe that a discussion with the Applicant's attorney would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the attorney at the number below.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission because 1) the three-month date of May 28, 2005 fell on a Saturday and 2) Monday, May 30 was a government holiday – the response date is, therefore, extended to Tuesday, May 31. Should any other required fees be due, however, please charge them to Acushnet Company Deposit Account No. 502309.

Respectfully submitted,

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